

Message Text

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47

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 FMC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CG-00 OFA-01 DLOS-03

L-03 /041 W

----- 104459

R 290840Z MAY 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5195

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE HONG KONG 5956

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, HK

SUBJ: SHIPPING: FOREIGN LAWS WHICH PROHIBIT THE RELEASE OF SHIPPING
DOCUMENTS

REF: (A) HONG KONG 5650 (B) STATE A-1090

1. HKG IS EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO DISCUSS THE MATTER AND DOES NOT WISH TO PUT ANYTHING ON PAPER. ROUGHLY, THE POSITION OF THE HKG IS THAT THERE IS NO REGULATION OR DIRECTIVE NOW IN FORCE THAT WOULD PREVENT THE CONFERENCES FROM COMPLYING WITH FMC G.O. NO. 14, BUT IF THE ISSUE WERE PRESSED, THE CONFERENCES WOULD PROBABLY HAVE LITTLE TROUBLE IN OBTAINING A PROHIBITION UNDER THE DOCUMENTS ACT.

2. COMMERCE & INDUSTRY OFFICIAL EXPLAINED THAT DOCUMENTS ACT WAS EXTENDED TO HK IN 1964 AND THAT MINIMAL COMPLIANCE WITH FMC REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION WAS BASIC SHIPPING POLICY OF UK AND HKG. ALTHOUGH NO FORMAL PROHIBITION HAS BEEN INSTITUTED UNDER ACT, CONFERENCES SUBMITTED THEIR PROPOSED FORMAT FOR REPORTS TO DIRECTOR OF MARINE FOR HIS APPROVAL. THUS, MR. DICK IS SOMEWHAT DISINGENUOUS WHEN HE DESCRIBES THE REPORTS AS "... IN THE FORM IN WHICH I WAS REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE HKG..." ON THE OTHER HAND, THERE IS NO DOUBT

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THAT THE MARINE DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH THIS FORMAT.

3. NEITHER CONGEN NOR HKG HAS ANY RECORD OF CONSULATIONS BETWEEN THE HKG AND THE STATE DEPT. ON THIS MATTER EXCEPT MR. OLSON'S CONVERSATION REPORTED IN HK A-288 OF 10/21/65.

4. DEPARTMENT MAY WANT TO CONSIDER TAKING UP THIS MATTER THROUGH EMBASSY LONDON INASMUCH AS WHITEHALL SEEMS TO BE SOURCE OF BASIC SHIPPING POLICY. DISCUSSION IN HONG KONG IS UNLIKELY TO LEAD TO ANY SOLUTION IN THE NEAR TERM.

DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT.
CROSS

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 29 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

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